

AUG 19 2003

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

CATHY A. CATTERSON
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff - Appellee,

v.

MARIA REYES,

Defendant - Appellant.

No. 02-35624

D.C. No. CV-01-00032A-JMF
CR-98-00172-JKS

MEMORANDUM*

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the District of Alaska
James M. Fitzgerald, Chief Judge, Presiding

Submitted August 15, 2003**
Anchorage, Alaska

Before: PREGERSON, CANBY, and McKEOWN, Circuit Judges.

Maria Reyes appeals from an order of the district court denying relief from
her conviction for conspiracy to distribute cocaine, in violation of

* This disposition is not appropriate for publication and may not be cited to or
by the courts of this circuit except as provided by Ninth Circuit Rule 36-3.

** This panel unanimously finds this case suitable for decision without oral
argument. See Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).

21 U.S.C. § 846. In this collateral attack pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255, Reyes seeks a new trial, alleging that the failure to submit the question of drug quantity to the jury was a clear error requiring reversal under Apprendi v. New Jersey, 530 U.S. 466, 490 (2000). Reyes argues that the district court mistakenly imposed a mandatory minimum sentence, under 21 U.S.C. § 841(b)(1)(a), using drug quantities from counts in the indictment on which Reyes had been acquitted by the jury.

We need not decide whether Reyes’ claim was procedurally defaulted because Reyes cannot prevail on the merits of the claim. Apprendi is not implicated unless the application of drug quantities that were not found beyond a reasonable doubt by the jury increases the sentence above the statutory maximum. United States v. Ochoa, 311 F.3d 1133, 1136 (9th Cir. 2002); United States v. Sanchez-Cervantes, 282 F.3d 664, 669 (9th Cir. 2002). Although she alleges that the conspiracy count in the indictment under which she was convicted contained no drug quantity, Reyes’ sentence of 120 months and five years probation is below the twenty-year statutory maximum sentence for an unspecified quantity of cocaine under 21 U.S.C. § 841(b)(1)(C). See Sanchez-Cervantes, 282 F.3d at 669 (“If the jury convicted the defendant of a drug violation, even with no finding of a

particular drug quantity, a sentence of twenty years or less would not violate Appendi.”).

Reyes nonetheless contends that Appendi applies because the district court incorrectly imposed a minimum sentence based on quantities of cocaine from other counts. This argument is foreclosed by Harris v. United States, 536 U.S. 545, 565 (2002), in which the Supreme Court held that “the facts guiding judicial discretion below the statutory maximum need not be alleged in the indictment, submitted to the jury, or proved beyond a reasonable doubt.”

AFFIRMED.